

What is claimed is:

1. A modular kitchen appliance system comprising:

a base having a first receptacle and a second receptacle formed in a top surface of said base;

5 at least a first motor contained within said base;

a vessel supported in said first receptacle of said base, said vessel including a blade assembly adapted for coupling to said first motor; and

a hand-held appliance removably supported in said second receptacle of said base, said appliance having a first end for receiving a shaft of an appliance attachment.

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2. A modular kitchen appliance system as defined in Claim 1, further comprising a flexible drive cable defining a first end, a second end and a longitudinal axis, said second end being received by a second end of said hand-held appliance and

15 being securable to said shaft of said appliance attachment for imparting a rotary motion to said appliance attachment.
3. A modular kitchen appliance system as defined in Claim 2, wherein said first end of said flexible drive cable is coupled to said first motor, said first motor pivoting said flexible drive cable with respect to said longitudinal axis thereby

20 imparting said rotary motion to said appliance attachment.
4. A modular kitchen appliance system as defined in Claim 2, further comprising a second motor contained within said base, wherein said first end of said

25 flexible drive cable is coupled to said second motor, said second motor pivoting said

flexible drive cable with respect to said longitudinal axis thereby imparting said rotary motion to said appliance attachment.

5 5. A modular kitchen appliance system as defined in Claim 1, further comprising an appliance attachment including a shaft adapted to be removably received in said first end of said appliance, and wherein said base includes a third receptacle formed in said top surface thereof for supporting said appliance attachment.

10 6. A modular kitchen appliance system as defined in Claim 2, wherein said base further includes an interior storage compartment for storing said flexible drive cable in a coiled retracted position.

15 7. A modular kitchen appliance system as defined in Claim 6, wherein said interior storage compartment is provided with a cable retraction mechanism for alternately feeding and retracting the flexible drive cable to desired lengths outside of said base.

20 8. A modular kitchen appliance system as defined in Claim 7, wherein said base includes a cable retraction button for activating said cable retraction mechanism.

25 9. A modular kitchen appliance system as defined in Claim 6, wherein said interior storage compartment defines an opening in said base through which said flexible drive cable may be withdrawn and retracted, said storage compartment including a wiper bushing disposed in said opening for cleaning debris from said flexible drive cable during retraction of said cable into said interior storage compartment.

10. A modular kitchen appliance system as defined in Claim 4, wherein said base includes a toggle switch for switching between said first and second motors.

5 11. A modular kitchen appliance system as defined in Claim 2, wherein said hand-held appliance includes a handle having a first button for releasing said appliance attachment from said first end of said appliance and a second button for alternately starting and stopping said rotary motion imparted on said appliance attachment by said flexible drive cable.

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12. A modular kitchen appliance system as defined in Claim 1, wherein said hand-held appliance includes a second motor contained therein for imparting a rotary motion to said appliance attachment.

15 13. A modular kitchen appliance system as defined in Claim 12, wherein said hand-held appliance includes a power source for powering said second motor.

14. A modular kitchen appliance system as defined in Claim 13, wherein said power source is a rechargeable battery.

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15. A modular kitchen appliance system as defined in Claim 13, wherein said base further includes a battery charging circuit contained therein, and said battery of said hand-held appliance being recharged by said battery charging circuit when said appliance is supported in said second receptacle of said base.

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16. A modular kitchen appliance system comprising:
- a base having a first receptacle and a second receptacle formed in a top surface of said base;
- at least a first motor contained within said base;
- 5 a vessel supported in said first receptacle of said base, said vessel including a blade assembly adapted for coupling to said first motor; and
- a hand-held appliance removably supported in said second receptacle of said base, said appliance having a first end for receiving a shaft of an appliance attachment, said hand-held appliance housing a drive assembly and said appliance
- 10 being in electrical communication with said base.
17. A modular kitchen appliance system as defined in Claim 16, wherein said handheld appliance includes a power source.
- 15 18. A modular kitchen appliance system as defined in Claim 16, further including a power module removably attachable to said hand-held appliance.
19. A modular kitchen appliance system as defined in Claim 18, wherein said power module is selectively in electrical communication with said base
- 20 20. A modular kitchen appliance system as defined in Claim 16, wherein said drive assembly includes a motor and said power source includes a battery.
21. A modular kitchen appliance system as defined in Claim 21, wherein
- 25 said base further includes a battery charging circuit contained therein, and said battery

of said hand-held appliance being recharged by said battery charging circuit when said appliance is supported in said second receptacle of said base.

22. A modular kitchen appliance system comprising:

5 a base having a first receptacle and a second receptacle formed in a top surface of said base;

at least a first motor contained within said base;

a vessel supported in said first receptacle of said base, said vessel including a blade assembly adapted for coupling to said first motor;

10 a hand-held appliance removably supported in said second receptacle of said base, said hand-held appliance housing a drive assembly;

a power module removably supported in said base and in electrical communication therewith, said power module being selectively attachable to said hand held appliance for energizing said drive assembly.

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